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Email message

EDMC

Hello Mr. Clark: Thank-you for your e-mail. Sorry I haven't responded for a while. I was busy with kids falling off of horses and dental emergencies(mine.) It was nice meeting you at the Hanford 5 year Review. Please say hi to Karen, also. She was very nice. I still have questions and concerns. I learned a lot from the book on Hanford cleanup, by Roy Gephardt. I talked to the lady from Hanford Watch who was at the meeting. I can see how people would get very emotional about the situation. The Riverkeeper man(Greg?) was also very knowledgeable, and I was glad to meet him. I think that people are really scared; I know I am. And, like the Hanford Watch lady said; it is our earth, and the only one we have. We HAVE to try to take care of it. I am happy that this current "culture" is more about cleanup than creating more nuclear bombs. (Well, I guess we already DID that.) I am angry at the people in the 1940's who didn't seem to care about us and who dumped all this stuff on that site. I was unclear about all that you reported on. Well, that is, I can remember some of it, but not all. You were basically talking about what had been done on the site and what still needed to be done. I would like to know if you could perhaps repeat to me what areas you folks are still working on. I am, of course, more concerned about the river. I would like to know if any plutonium, uranium plumes have come down this way lately, or what IS coming down this way. I would like to know if you will get the plume under Hanford that they were talking about in 60 Minutes away from the river. Will it really come down this way? Do you do pump and treat to remedy it? Will that get it all? My book that I read said something about solidifying the plume under the ground. Tim Hill from Dept. of Ecology (he was at the meeting), had told me, over the phone, that there was a "freezing" deal they could do with the underground plume. What is that all about? Also, am I considered a "downwinder"? What IS a downwinder? You all seemed like you were working hard on controlling the waste, and that you were concerned. I understood some of the meeting, but not all of it. WHY would 60 Minutes report on it if it weren't extremely urgent? I am still scared. I really want to, in all honesty, know if I should move away from the river in a few years. I don't want to get cancer from this, and I don't want YOU to, either. I was shocked that Richland takes its water from the Columbia River. As a Christian, I am concerned about you, and Bryant, and Karen, and all the other nice people I met from the Tri-Cities. I am not one of those people who says "well, it's too far enough away to really concern me," or "well, I can just move." I CARE about people whom I meet, and like. It's not like I'm not concerned about my OWN welfare; but I have a lot of room in my heart for other people, also. Can't you talk to your City Govt. about getting your water from elsewhere? I know Bryant made it sound like it was safe, but I don't believe that. Now I am (also) worried about you folks. Unless you get the water from up north of Hanford. Then I could see how it would be all right, since rivers seem to flow from north to south. Are the old tanks really emptied? Dennis Faulk was telling me that they were, which is excellent work. He said there was just the sludge on the bottom to remove. I would say that is good because it takes strain off the plume. That's how we're all really going to get poisoned, at this point; if that gets into the Columbia. But I know you folks are extremely educated, and know a lot more about what you are doing than I ever will. Tell me this stuff won't hurt my river any more than it already has, please. As I said to Karen; what you folks are doing is very noble. It is noble to be cleaning up this earth, and I'm sure the Lord will look down on

you and smile if you are giving it your best effort. It's not your people's fault, what these people in the 1940's did, creating all this crap for our generation to clean up. And I hope no one is bringing you more waste, because I feel that you all have your hands full taking care of all that is already there. I didn't know anything about any of this a year ago; I had no idea something so serious could exist right here in Washington State. I am very sad. Well, that's my long-winded message. Please reply, and take care, Sincerely, Carol.